



**Encouraging  
the pursuit  
of science**



**“ We want to  
inspire children  
about the wonders  
of science and  
help science and  
tech start-ups  
to develop  
and grow. ”**

Sir Martin and Lady Audrey Wood,  
patrons of The Oxford Trust, 2018



# ABOUT THE TRUST

**Welcome to The Oxford Trust, an independent charitable trust established in 1985 by Oxford entrepreneurs the late Sir Martin Wood and Lady Audrey Wood, co-founders of Oxford Instruments, the University's first, and some say most successful, spinout company.**

Our mission is simple; to encourage the pursuit of science.

To do this, the Trust runs activities across three connected programmes: education, public engagement and innovation.

While the Trust focuses on the innovation strategy, our education and engagement programmes are delivered through our Science Oxford team.

Our innovation programme supports economic growth in our region by encouraging enterprise.

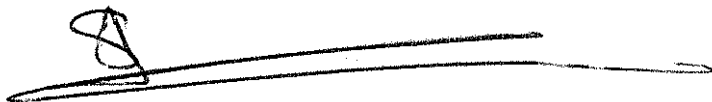
The Trust's two innovation centres, the Wood Centre for Innovation and the Oxford Centre for Innovation, help local science and tech start-ups and spinouts by offering space and business support when they need it most.

We have helped hundreds of tech companies to develop and grow thanks to the time they spent at one of our innovation centres, including Mirada Medical, Perspectum Diagnostics, Natural Motion, Oxford Computer Consultants and, more recently, Ultromics.

We are proud that the income from our innovation programme is reinvested into our STEM education and engagement programmes, which aim to cultivate a positive attitude to science and lay the foundations for science learning.

The strength of our charitable business model is that it is self-sustaining and supports both ends of the science spectrum, from inspiring young people about the wonders of science to helping science start-ups to develop and grow.

We're based at the Wood Centre for Innovation, next to the Science Oxford Centre, in Headington. You are welcome to come and visit us.



**Steve Burgess**  
CEO, The Oxford Trust



# OUR EDUCATION PROGRAMME

SCIENCEOXFORD



**Our education programme is run by our Science Oxford team to inspire young people about science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM).**

## PRIMARY SCHOOL PROGRAMME

Our Primary School Programme supports STEM teaching and learning for pupils across Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire. Schools can visit our Science Oxford Centre or we can visit schools in the region.



### Science Oxford Centre

Our Science Oxford Centre is the UK's first indoor-outdoor hands-on science education centre for early years and primary-aged children. The Centre gives children the opportunity to experience the excitement of making their own discoveries through STEM activities, workshops and shows.

### Science Oxford in local schools

We have a wide range of STEM-focused workshops and shows that can be run in schools as well as outreach kits which can be booked for science clubs or lessons. We also run Continuing Professional Development programmes for primary teachers.

### Big Science Event at school

The Big Science Event is designed to support and celebrate child-led science investigation. There is a grand final at the end of the academic year with lots of great prizes for local schools.

Based on the Thinking, Doing, Talking Science ethos, we give children the opportunity to experience the excitement of investigation, exploration, experimentation and discovery. We want to show them that science is something they can all enjoy and succeed in.

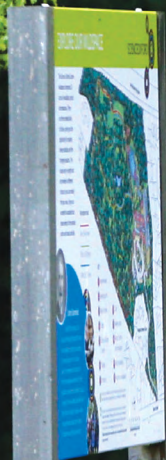
## SECONDARY SCHOOL PROGRAMME



**Our STEM Careers Programme supports personal development for young people in secondary education in Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire by providing activities to develop skills and raise awareness of STEM careers and opportunities.**

We work with local STEM businesses to offer STEM careers days, skills workshops, insight weeks, summer experience weeks and work placements. We also run the Young Scientists of the Year Awards for 17–18 year-olds to celebrate their achievement, talent and commitment to STEM.

# OUR PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME



# **Our public engagement programme is run by our Science Oxford team and aims to inspire young people and their families about science.**

We encourage people of all ages to engage with science and how it impacts their lives.

We run a vibrant programme of year-round events, including Family Days and STEM-themed after school and Saturday clubs for all ages, mainly at the Science Oxford Centre in Headington.

## **FAMILY DAYS**



The Science Oxford Centre is open for Family Days every Saturday.

Visitors can experiment and make discoveries in the Exploration Zone with its hands-on science-based exhibits. Family Day tickets include access to 15 acres of woodland and use of our Explorer Backpacks with a compass, magnifying glass and bug pots plus a minibeast chart. And, the outdoor Water Lab offers water-based play, investigation and problem-solving activities. Bring a change of dry clothes!



We also run special events and themed days too, such as our regular Sensory-Friendly Family Days, as well as a family outreach programme with local cultural and community partners.

## **CLUBS**



We run Creative Computing, Saturday Science, Nature Lab and after school Arti-Techs clubs at the Science Oxford Centre. We also offer a range of activities for young people at our centre during the school holidays such as Robot Camp and Science Camp. We run regular Saturday Science Clubs in Abingdon too.

# OUR INNOVATION PROGRAMME

# Our innovation programme is provided by The Oxford Trust and supports science and tech start-ups and spinouts through our two innovation centres.

## OUR INNOVATION CENTRES



The Trust owns the Oxford Centre for Innovation in the city centre (see above) and the Wood Centre for Innovation in Headington (see left), which support science and tech start-ups and spin-outs.

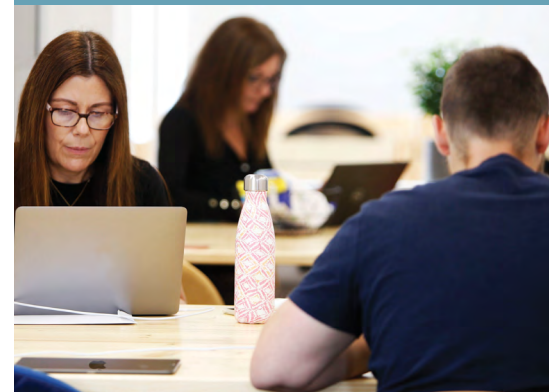
We do this by providing cost-effective flexible office space, technical workshops, R&D labs, co-working space and meeting facilities and sector-specific business support, just when businesses need it.

The Trust also runs an Enterprise Support Programme to help young technology-based businesses get started in Oxford.

Our passion is seeing those companies which join us grow and succeed.

We also work closely with like-minded partners to support innovation and champion projects that put enterprise at the heart of our region, helping to facilitate Oxfordshire's world-class ecosystem.

## OUR PARTNERSHIPS



We work closely with Barclays Eagle Labs, based in our centres, and Oxford Innovation, our innovation centre management company which itself was a spin-out from The Oxford Trust, to create a growth pathway for start-up science and tech businesses.

Businesses that graduate from co-working in Barclays Eagle Labs can move into space in our centres, whether it's office space or R&D labs, or a combination of both, and they benefit from continued business support.

Our innovation programme also supports projects that put enterprise at the heart of our region, such as Advanced Oxford, which works with innovation businesses to help the long-term development of the region, and innovation catalyst, The Hill.



# FULFILLING OUR MISSION

**Meet Alex Greenhalgh, founder of start-up Spintex, now based in our Wood Centre for Innovation. He is an entrepreneur in the truest sense of the word.**

Alex is Oxford born and bred and took to science early on in life.

In fact, as a teenager, he won a Nuffield Research Placement in microbiology through Science Oxford, which we ran from 1998 to 2014.

Today Alex runs Spintex which is using a spider-inspired process or pultrusion to develop artificially spun, high performance silk.

He epitomises everything The Oxford Trust stands for: inspiring the next generation of scientists and innovators.

# SUPPORT US

**We are reliant on the generosity of enthusiastic individuals, businesses and foundations that support our goal to inspire young people in STEM and to lay the foundation for the next generation of innovators and entrepreneurs.**

You can help us in several ways — join us as a patron, donate, volunteer or become a business partner.

For more information, see [theoxfordtrust.co.uk/support-us](https://theoxfordtrust.co.uk/support-us)





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